

Remarks

Please change the correspondence address for this application to customer number 45069.

Applicant's new attorney would appreciate the Examiner's assistance in reviewing the file to be certain that all filing requirements and priority claims have been properly made and entered.

The only claim submitted with the initial application has been cancelled and new claims have been submitted for review. The Applicant respectfully submits the new claims are patentable over the references cited by the Examiner to reject the original claim.

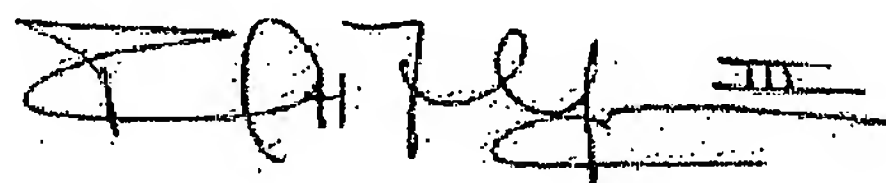
The Applicant respectfully submits the Nixon '709 reference is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b). The present application claims priority from provisional patent application no. 60/319,707 which was filed November 19, 2002. Nixon '709 was filed March 12, 2003. 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) defines prior art as subject matter that was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of the application for patent in the United States. In this application, Nixon does not qualify as prior art under 102(b) because the present application claims priority from a provisional application filed four months before Nixon and the present application was filed before the Nixon reference was published. The applicant thus respectfully submits the Nixon rejections should be withdrawn.

The Examiner also rejected the claim as being anticipated by Kalnitz (2,369,464). The Applicant submits the cancellation of the claim and the submittal of the new claims obviate the rejection. Claim 2 requires the base mounting mechanisms to be cantilevered from the bottom portions of the floating booms. Claim 8 requires the support risers to be connected to the base mounting mechanisms with each floating boom assembly having a pair of support risers with the floating boom disposed between the support risers. Claim 11 requires the lower portions of the support risers to be connected to the base mounting mechanisms. The Kalnitz reference and the other art cited in the this

application and known to the Applicant do not disclose or suggest these limitations. The new claims are thus patentable over the art.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance for the claims.

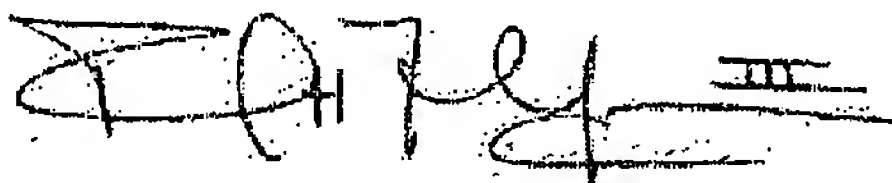
Please call the undersigned attorney if any issues remain after this amendment.



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I hereby certify that this correspondence (Amendment A in application serial no. 10/604,310 filed July 10, 2003) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail (with sufficient postage) in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, OR is being transmitted by facsimile to 571-273-8300 on December 1, 2005.



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